

A. CLAIMS

I claim:

- 5 1. A method of increasing the solubility of
a protein of interest produced in a host cell
comprising expressing the protein as a fusion protein
with a 14-3-3 protein.
- 10 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the protein
of interest is selected from the group consisting of:
extracellular domains of membrane-bound receptor
proteins, cytokines and cytokine-like proteins,
neurotrophins, and metalloproteases.
- 15 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the host
cell is a prokaryotic cell.
- 20 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the
prokaryotic cell is a bacterial cell.
5. The method of claim 4 wherein the host
cell is an *E. coli* cell.
- 25 6. A method of increasing the solubility of
a protein of interest produced in a host cell
comprising expressing the protein as a fusion protein
with a GF-14 polypeptide.
- 30 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the GF14
polypeptide is GF-14R and is encoded by the nucleic
acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 38.
- 35 8. The method of claim 6 wherein the fusion
protein contains a linker peptide.

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cell is a prokaryotic cell.

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cell is an ~~E.~~ coli cell.

15

NO: 38.

20

metalloprotease.

[illegible]

Sub
B

Inset
B2